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WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Sixty-Third Anniversary
1913-1976

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THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
May 4, 1976

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HISTORY OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

1912 - 1976

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Forest Grove Baptist Church
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Meat Camp Baptist Church
Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church
Shulls Mills Baptist Church
Stony Fork Baptist Church
Timbered Ridge Baptist Church
White Rock Baptist Church
Zion Hill Baptist Church
Zionville Baptist Church

It is a proven fact that churches with Woman's Missionary Union organizations are more active in their community and more liberal with their gifts. We would encourage all to be more faithful in keeping written records of their work, that future generations may know what this generation has done. It could be an inspiration and encouragement to all who read of their activities. We are making History. Let's tell others about it.

****

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL to our dedicated Associational WMU Director, Mrs. Norman Reese, for her tireless efforts in complying and publishing this book.

WE ARE INDEBTED to another devoted leader, Mrs. Don Perry, for writing the Skit and Associational WMU History.

THANKS are due to many ladies for composing the history of their church's WMU work.

HISTORY OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF
THREE FORKS ASSOCIATION
1912 - 1976

God has no other plan for bringing to Him all the ends of the earth than through the faithful service and efficient witness of those who know Him and walk in His way. That His message may find expression, that His program may go forward, and His purpose be made known, are the aims of Woman's Missionary Union.

At the meeting of the Three Forks Baptist Association at South Fork Baptist Church August 28, 1912, it was announced that Miss Blanche Barrus, Corresponding Secretary of Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina from Raleigh, N. C., would speak to the ladies immediately, in the church. Since the Association had met at the place of preaching in the grove near the church, the congregation engaged in singing while the ladies gathered in the house.

The meeting was presided over by Mrs. J. I. Pulliam of Boone. Miss Barrus explained the plan of work and the aims of Woman's Missionary Union as outlined by the pioneer women of 1888. After a discussion by several women present it was decided the time had come to effect such an organization in our Association and Mrs. B. J. Council of Boone was appointed president and Miss Rose Edna Brown of Blowing Rock, vice-president, for the coming year. Miss Bina Garvey of the Ashe Association made a helpful talk along the lines of associational work. After further discussion by Miss Barrus of the plan of work of the individual responsibility of women in mission work, the meeting adjourned.

When the Three Forks Baptist Association met at Cove Creek Church August 25-28, 1913, the women also met for the purpose of organizing a Woman's Missionary Union. Miss Rose Edna Brown, vice-president of the work in the Association, conducted the meeting. After a song, Mr. Smith Hagaman opened the meeting with scripture and prayer. Miss Brown spoke to the women explaining fully the WMU from the state organization to the individual society. Miss Purnell from Boone gave some very helpful and useful suggestions after which Mrs. Rose Fuller read the Constitution and By-laws for an associational union. After some discussion by the ladies it was moved and seconded that the women of Three Forks adopt this constitution, and that Miss Rose Edna Brown serve as president of the organization and Miss Hattie Swift as secretary. Much interest was taken in the meeting. Blowing Rock, Boone, and Cove Creek reported as being ready for a missionary society in their churches. The meeting adjourned to meet again at the next session of the Association in 1914.

The first public meeting of the associational WMU was held in April 1914 in Boone Church in observance of the Jubilate Celebration and the Judson Centennial.

At the meeting of the Association at Meat Camp August 25-27, 1914 the clerk read the report on Woman's Work as prepared by Miss Brown, president. The following is an excerpt: "About a year and a half ago I was appointed by the State Central Committee as vice-president of the work of the Woman's Missionary Union in Three Forks Association. Up to that time no organized work had been attempted among our women and children. Last year at Cove Creek we held our first regular meeting and organized an Associational Union. As yet we have only three women's societies and two Sunbeam Bands with a membership of 116. Hence, our first duty is to try to interest and enlist the women and

children, but before we can reach them we must have the approval and support of the pastors. As Baptist women and children of the Three Forks Association we want to have a part in the great work of making the name of Jesus known and loved to the uttermost part of the earth and we earnestly desire the cooperation, encouragement, and prayers of this body in our Woman's meeting today and in all our efforts to reach the great number of our women who have not yet caught a clear vision of a lost world and have not realized that 'The Lord hath need of them.'" On motion the work of the women was approved and the report adopted. The Association stood and sang while the women passed out of the house to have their meeting in the grove nearby.

Following is the program of the first meeting of the Associational Woman's Missionary Union held at Meat Camp Church August 26, 1914, 2:00 P.M.

Song: "Nearer My God to Thee."

1. Devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. Bolding.
2. Chain of prayers for the missionary societies of Three Forks Association led by Mrs. D. F. Horton.
3. Number of members present from the different societies: Cove Creek 5; Boone 5; Blowing Rock 1.
4. Committee of five appointed to nominate officers for the coming year.
5. Reports from the societies read and approved.
6. A very interesting paper on "How Missionary Societies Can Help Our Churches" was read by Mrs. Boldin.
7. Reading, "Our Personal Service", by Mrs. D. F. Horton.
8. Short discussions on the following subjects:
   a. How to make the societies interesting so we can have good attendance.
   b. Does spiritual service increase the spirituality of our churches?
   c. The duty of Woman's Missionary Union to our children and young people.
   d. Methods of advancing our work in the county.
9. Report of the Nominating Committee:
   Miss Rose Edna Brown, president
   Mrs. Richard Greene, vice-president
   Miss Hattie Swift, secretary and treasurer.

Boone, Blowing Rock and Cove Creek reported a total membership of 61 and total offering of $176.81.

At this time some of the men objected to the amount of money given by the women to missions for they were afraid they would give too much. Thankfully, men now are as liberal with their offerings to missions as the women and all special offerings are church-wide projects.

In 1915 at Zionville Church during the regular associational meeting Mrs. Rose Fuller read the report on Woman's Work in which she stated that the Baptist Women of North Carolina through organized work of the WMU have accomplished much and with God's help expect to accomplish more. She also said the women of Three Forks Association realized the fact that the ministers and laymen of the Association did not appreciate the efforts of the organized WMU and that the Association would never come into full possession of the power of best service until there is a missionary society in every church.

The women met for their meeting on Wednesday August 25 but did not have a program as their president, Miss Brown, had married and given up her work. However a number of the women met in the open and reorganized for the year, appointing Mrs. D.F. Horton president and Mrs. Hattie Swift Johnson secretary. It was decided at this meeting that the women would hold their meetings separate and apart from the meetings of the Association and this plan

has been followed ever since. Cove Creek Church invited the first meeting to be with them in 1916.

In 1918 the report of Woman's Work showed there had been steady growth since the beginning five years before. This year the women undertook the support of two native Bible women in China. Societies had been organized at Forest Grove, Willowdale and Beaver Dams. In 1919 Bethel and South Fork reported societies organized. By this time pastors and laymen were more sympathetic with the Women's work and were giving them their loyal cooperation for which the women were very grateful. At the Annual meeting held at Bethel Church two laymen were present: Smith Hagaman and Roy Gragg. Also one pastor: M.A. Adams. This year the 75 Mission Campaign was launched. Gifts to missions were increased to three times the amount of other years and were always larger afterwards. It was soon realized that churches with a missionary society were more liberal in supporting the cause for which Christ died.

In 1921 the women began putting special emphasis on Bible Study, Mission Study, and Personal Service, which later was known as Community Missions and today we call Mission Action. Each year each church in the Association was asked to send delegates to the Annual meeting and pastors also were cordially invited. Pastors even began taking a part on the program now. A new society, Timbered Ridge was added this year but was reported lost in 1922.

In 1930, at the Annual Meeting at Bethel the D.D. Dougherty Memorial Library was begun. The Ladies Sunday School Class of Boone Church gave the first books. This library was to center around missions, to be used to stimulate the study of missions in the Association, be located in Boone Baptist Church, and under the direction of the Associational mission study leader and a librarian appointed by the class. After the organization of so many libraries in the individual church this was discontinued.

Small mention has been made of the important part Mrs. D. F. Horton played in the early struggles of the WMU in the Association. She served as president from 1916 to 1924 and always had an active part in the growth and development of the WMU.

In 1939 at Meat Camp Church a letter was read from Mrs. Horton expressing her regrets at being unable to attend the Annual Meeting because of the serious illness of her husband and mentioned that this was the first meeting she had missed since the organization of the Union in 1912 and this was probably the only one she missed until her death in 1951. As a memorial to her in 1952 the WMU voted to provide a scholorship to Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute each year to a pastor from our Association who was studying there. Rev. A.C. Moody was the first recipient of this gift. Later this was changed to include anyone preparing for full-time Christian service and each year would be a memorial to all members of WMU who had passed away during that year.

Another member present at the organization of the associational WMU and its first secretary, was Mrs. Hattie Swift Johnson Lewis. She is still a very active member in the WMU in her church - Cove Creek. Mrs. Rose Edna Brown Garvey, the first president of the Associational WMU, passed away in 1969.

The importance of young people in WMU work has always been stressed and they have been urged to give themselves to the Lord and His work early in life. We are happy to pay tribute to Mrs. Nora M. Wilson for her untiring

efforts and sacrificial service with the youth of our Association. Especially has this been true in connection with our youth camps which had their beginning in her heart and mind many years ago. In her own words she gives us a brief summary of this phase of our WMU work.

"The first Associational Camp for WMU youth was held in 1947, but the idea of camps was in evidence as early as the 1930s when some overnight church camps were held. In the Annual WMU meeting held at Blowing Rock Church April 12, 1947, the committee on recommendations suggested that an Associational Camp be held for Royal Ambassadors and Girls' Auxiliaries. Heads, hearts, and hands began working together and as a result the first Associational RA and GA Camp was held at Camp Fiesta (above Shulls Mills) on August 18 and 19, 1947. The camp plans for 1948 did not materialize because of the polio epidemic. For four years, 1949-1952, camps were held in the home of Odes and Nora Wilson. These were separate camps for Junior and Intermediate boys and girls. In 1953 the first Camp Joy building, the dining-room-kitchen, was erected. The bunk building was erected in 1954, and the assembly-recreation building in 1956. The WMU and Brotherhood were faithful in the building of the camp, giving their time, money, and prayers. They have been faithful through the years in their support of the camp and participation in the camp activities. The camps for Junior and Intermediates grew from the night and day duration to the Monday through Friday camps in 1956. The first Sunbeam Day Camps were held in 1955 and have been held each succeeding year. One Young Women's Auxiliary camp was held in 1955. The total attendance of associational youth campers from the beginning in 1947 through 1970 was 2,722. The spiritual blessings as a result of the work of the camps cannot be counted. Many campers have made professions of faith and many more have dedicated their lives in the service of the Lord."

Because of health conditions, Mrs. Wilson, after 22 years of service as camp director, resigned in August 1970. Mrs. Margaret Hartley, present director of Camp Joy, is very busy promoting the Camp and under her leadership many improvements have been made. The long-range plan is to make it available for year-round use. No five-day camps have been held since 1970 but plans are for them to be resumed as soon as possible. During the period from May through October the Camp is used by many groups from within the association, North Carolina and other states, for day meetings, over-night retreats and week-long activities. The WMU is still active in support of Camp Joy and has an important part in all the improvements, maintenance and activities at the Camp.

The first Associational Leadership Conference was held January 31,1947 under the leadership of Mrs. H.K. Middleton, associational president. This was to acquaint the new members, and especially the leaders, as to the real purpose of WMU and how to achieve that purpose through prayer, study and training. Conferences were held for all leaders and members. This was such an interesting and profitable experience it has been continued ever since. State officers and workers are present in many of these meetings keeping the leadership of our association up-to-date on new ideas, new plans and new ways of promoting the work. This plan is so beneficial that in 1967 the WMU voted to pay, in the future, the expenses of the associational officers to the State Leadership Conferences, workshops and group studies, so they might receive additional helps to bring back to the local leaders.

In 1965 it was decided to have two Annual Meetings of the associational WMU one in November when reports of the work done by the different societies and their youth organizations would be given and close with a World Day of Prayer program. The other meeting in May would be an inspirational meeting.

This was discontinued in 1969.

On the program of each Annual Meeting some moments are given in reverent silence and with a prayer of thanksgiving, to the memory of those members who have passed away since the last meeting.

Associational mission study classes have brought the women together for fellowship and greater knowledge of mission work around the world. Often these classes are taught by missionaries on furlough, retired missionaries or the author of the book studied. Missions really come alive to all who participate in one of these studies. Some of the teachers have been, Miss Olive Lawton, Rev. and Mrs. Thomas High, Rev. and Mrs. H.K. Middleton, Rev. and Mrs. Charles Allard, Miss Bertha Smith and North Carolina Area missionary, Rev. James Lambert. The reading of mission study books, mission reading books and missionary biographies is stressed for when we know we can more effectively pray for missionaries and mission work and it will be reflected in our offerings.

Changes in the plan of work for Woman's Missionary Union occur from time to time and we have always cooperated with the State and Southern Baptist Convention in all programs launched. The first plan for measuring achievement in the societies was known as the Standard of Excellence. This plan was followed by Aims for Advancement and today we have Aims for Achievement which lead to a deeper commitment on the part of the women and young people. Since we have adopted the Aims for Achievement plan we have been recognized as an Honor, Advanced and twice as a Distinguished, the highest award to be attained, Woman's Missionary Union.

Other significant changes were made in 1970. A new grouping-grading plan and new names for age-level organizations, committees and magazines were introduced. The age-level organizations are: Adult Division - Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women; Youth Division - Acteens; Children's Division - Girls in Action; Preschool Division - Mission Friends. Boys previously in Sunbeam Band have been transferred to the Brotherhood Children's Division and the Brotherhood has assumed responsibility for them. All former committees have now been combined under the headings of Mission Study, Mission Support and Mission Action Groups. These changes have been made as a means of helping churches to do God's Work in a better way.

In 1971 the By-Laws of the Associational Woman's Missionary Union were revised and brought up-to-date with the new terminology of WMU.

An inspiring and challenging feature promoted by the associational WMU has been the Prayer Retreats led by outstanding persons who have made prayer the dominant factor in their lives. Some of these leaders have been women from our local WMU's - others were outstanding spiritual leaders from elsewhere. These Retreats were for all who would attend - pastors, men, women and children - and all were blessed by attending.

An associational-wide project which made Home Missions more real was begun in 1973 and is still carried on by some churches. Responding to the appeal of Rev. George Berry, a native of Watauga County and pastor of the First Baptist Church, Oak Harbor, Ohio, a pioneer mission work, the women led out in helping this church in a material and financial way.

The youth of the Association - Acteens, Girls-in-Action and Royal Ambassadors (although the R.A.'s are now under the leadership of the Brotherhood they are still included in some WMU youth activities) - add much to the Annual Meetings with their special music, devotional thoughts and dramas. They, too,

have fellowship and receive encouragement through mission study classes, covered dish suppers and other get-togethers.

The following have ably served as president of the Associational WMU: Miss Rose Edna Brown (Mrs. Robert Garvey, deceased); Mrs. D. F. Horton, deceased; Mrs. W. W. Wilson; Mrs. George Hagaman, deceased; Mrs. I. G. Greer, deceased; Mrs. J. L. Qualls, deceased; Mrs. D. P. Coffey, deceased; Mrs. Andrew Morgan; Mrs. H. K. Middleton; Mrs. A. E. Moretz, deceased; Mrs. C. J. Farthing, Mrs. Don C. Perry; Mrs. Guy Cain; Mrs. J. Boyce Brooks, Mrs. John B. Robinson; Mrs. John E. Ward and Mrs. Norman L. Reese.

These churches have now, or have had at one time, missionary organizations: Beaver Dams, Bethel, Bethany, Blowing Rock, Boone, Brushy Fork, Cove Creek, Forest Grove, Gap Creek, Greenway, Howard's Creek, Laurel Springs, Mabel, Meat Camp, Middle Fork, Mount Calvary, Oak Grove, Perkinsville, Pleasant Grove, Poplar Grove, Rutherwood, Shulls Mills, South Fork, Stony Fork, Three Forks, Timbered Ridge, Willowdale, Willow Valley, Zion Hill, Zionville.

In the words of Mrs. John B. Robinson, former president, "As our name indicates, we are the missionary organization of the church, and our purpose is to promote missions. We endeavor to do this by (1) helping the women and young people to develop a world awareness, with appreciation for all people and concern for their needs; (2) encouraging the development of the spiritual life as Bible study, family worship and observances of the Weeks of Prayer are stressed; (3) showing the importance of the sharing of possessions through tithing, the Cooperative Program and special mission offerings; (4) cultivating missionary convictions in the hearts of our young people; and (5) enlistment and training of leaders.

We believe that when Christ said, "Go ye," He was speaking to women as well as men, and that our organization is one of the best ways we can prepare ourselves to be obedient to His command. For we serve the Lord Christ."

BY-LAWS
WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION
THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be Woman's Missionary Auxiliary to the Three Forks Baptist Association.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVE

The associational WMU program assists churches in two ways. First, it helps in establishing, conducting, enlarging, and improving the WMU program in the churches of the Association. Second, it helps church WMUs by representing them in doing work which could not be done as effectively by each church working alone.

ARTICLE III

RELATIONSHIPS

Section 1. Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Three Forks Baptist Association, shall be the liaison organization between church organizations and the North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union.
Section 2. This Associational Union shall recognize the autonomy of church organizations as provided in the Baptist democratic process of operation.
Section 3. Church organizations shall be recognized as units through which the object of Woman's Missionary Union is accomplished, each responsible for its own program, and contributing to the work of the association.
Section 4. This associational Union shall be guided in its plan of work by the Associational WMU Achievement Guide.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERS

The members of Woman's Missionary Union organizations in the churches and missions of the Three Forks Association shall constitute the membership.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall be a WMU Director, Assistant Director, Secretary/Treasurer, Baptist Women Director, Baptist Young Women Director, Acteens Directors, GA Director, and Mission Friends Director. These shall be elected annually in the meeting of the Associational WMU. The tenure of office shall be five years.
Section 2. These officers shall perform the duties set out for them in these By-laws and the Associational WMU Manual.

ARTICLE VI

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. The nominating committee composed of three to five women shall be elected by the Associational WMU to serve for one year.
Section 2. The nominating committee shall nominate officers and a nominating committee to serve the following year, beginning October 1 of

said year. Other nominations may be made from the floor.
Section 3. The nominating committee, in event of vacancy between meetings of the association, shall present a nominee for the unexpired term for election by the Associational WMU Council..

ARTICLE VII

MEETINGS

An Associational WMU meeting shall be held annually. The day and time to be decided by the Associational WMU Council. Other meetings shall be held as authorized by the Associational Council.

ARTICLE VIII

WMU COUNCIL

Section 1. The Associational WMU Council shall be composed of the Associational officers, local WMU Directors/or Baptist Women Presidents if no director, and any others desired.

Section 2. The Council shall schedule the regular meetings of the organizations, plan the program of activites, hear reports and check progress of the Achievement Guide.

ARTICLE IX

COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be committees,standing or special,as needed.
Section 2. Committees, except those otherwise provided for shall be appointed by the WMU Director.
Section 3. The WMU Director shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.
Section 4. The duties of these committees are such as set forth in these By-laws and the Associational WMU Manual.

ARTICLE X

FINANCES

The Associational WMU shall adopt an annual budget based on funds to be provided by local WMUs who shall pay an amount equal to twenty-five cents per member for Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Associational WMU provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous regular meeting.

BEGINNINGS OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY WORK
of the
THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
1912

Narrator:
Mrs. Shirley Moore

At the meeting of the Three Forks Baptist Association at South Fork Church August 28, 1912 it was announced that Miss Blanche Barrus, Corresponding Secretary of Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina was present and would speak to the ladies. Since the Association had met at the place of preaching in the grove near the church, the ladies gathered in the church. Mrs. J. I. Pulliam of Boone presided.

Mrs. Pulliam:
Mrs. Anna Wilson

Ladies, Miss Barrus has come to explain to us how that women can help in giving the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to all the World. Miss Barrus.

Miss Barrus:
Mrs. Dottie Fairchild

Briefly, let me tell you of the purpose and plan of work of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. Our two-fold purpose is: First. To distribute Missionary information and to stimulate the missionary spirit and the grace of giving among the women and young people of the church. Second. To aid in collecting funds for missionary purposes to be disbursed by the Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention and disclaiming all intention of independent action.
Our Plan of work: We appeal to the women of our Baptist churches to sustain this mission by their prayers and contributions. We suggest the organization of missionary societies in each church who will meet regularly for prayer and to spread abroad missionary information. The cooperation of the different societies should be arranged in the simplest form of organization, that each and all may be willing to unite with one heart and mind in carrying out the work to the glory of God and the extension of the knowledge of Christ, that through Him all families of the earth may be blessed.

Narrator:

After discussion by the women present, it was decided the time had come to effect such an organization. Mrs. B. J. Council of Boone was appointed president and Miss Rose Edna Brown of Blowing Rock, vice president for the coming year.

1913

Narrator:

When the Three Forks Baptist Association met at Cove Creek Church August 26-28, 1913, the women also met for the purpose of organizing a Woman's Missionary Union. Miss Rose Edna Brown, vice president of the work in the Association, presided. She spoke to the women explaining fully the Woman's Missionary Union from the state organization to the local society. Miss P[illegible]rnell from Boone gave some very helpful and useful suggestions after which Mrs. Rose Fuller read the Constitution and By-Laws for an associational

union. After some discussion by the ladies it was moved and seconded that the women of Three Forks adopt this Constitution, and that Miss Rose Edna Brown serve as president of the organization and Miss Hattie Swift as Secretary.

Mrs. Blowing Rock: (Rises) This is something new but we believe it is for the glory of God and we are ready to organize a missionary society in our church.

Mrs. Boone: (Rises) We have already been meeting and discussing this and we believe that now is the time to be more active in taking the gospel into all the world and we believe we can best do this through a missionary organization. We are ready for such a missionary organization in our church.

Mrs. Cove Creek: (Rises) The brethern in our churches are opposed to such an activity on the part of women but we believe when God said "Go ye," He was speaking to women as well as men, and that through a Woman's Missionary Union organization is one of the best ways we can prepare ourselves to be obedient to His command. We are ready to organize.

Narrator: The meeting adjourned to meet again at the next session of the Three Forks Association in 1914.

1914

Narrator: At the meeting of the Association at Meat Camp August 25-27, 1914 the Woman's Missionary Union of Three Forks Baptist Association held their meeting. Since women were not permitted to speak on the floor of the Association, the clerk read the report on Woman's Work as prepared by Miss Rose Edna Brown, president.

Mr. Clerk: "About a year and a half ago I was appointed by the State Central Committee as vice president of the work of the Woman's Missionary Union in Three Forks Association. Up to that time no organized work had been attempted among our women and children. Last year at Cove Creek we held our first regular meeting and organized an associational union. As yet we have only three societies, Blowing Rock, Boone and Cove Creek and three Sunbeam Bands, one in each of these churches with a membership of 116. Hence our first duty is to try to interest and enlist the women and the children, but before we can reach them we must have the approval and support of the pastors. As Baptist women and children of the Three Forks Association we want to have a part in the great work of making the name of Jesus known and loved to the uttermost part of the earth and we earnestly desire the cooperation, encouragement and prayers of this body in our Woman's Meeting today and in all our efforts to reach the great number of our women who have not yet caught a clear vision of a lost world and have not realized that the Lord hath need of them."

Narrator: On motion the work of the women was approved and the report adopted. The Association stood and sang while the women passed out of the house to have their meeting in the grove nearby.

Narrator: This is the program of the first meeting of the associational Woman's Missionary Union held at Meat Camp Church August 26, 1914, 2:00 P.M.

Mrs. Margaret Oliver
Mrs. Frankie Stokes
Mrs. Charlotte Walker
Mrs. Christine Oliver

Song: "Nearer My God To Thee."

1. Devotional exercises conducted by Mrs. Boldin.
2. Chain of prayers for the missionary societies of Three Forks Association led by Mrs. D. F. Horton.
3. Roll Call: Cove Creek - 5 (We have five women present.)
   Boone - 4 (There are four women here from Boone.)
   Blowing Rock - 1 (We have one woman present.)

Mrs. Ruby Mashburn also participated

4. Committee of five appointed to nominate officers for the coming year.
5. Reports of societies read an approved.
6. A very interesting paper on "How Missionary Societies can help our Churches," was read by Mrs. Boldin.
7. Reading: "Our Personal Service," by Mrs. D.F. Horton
8. Short discussion on the following subjects:
   a. How to make the societies interesting so we can have good attendance.
   b. Does spiritual service increase the spirituality of our churches?
   c. The duty of Woman's Missionary Union to our children and young people.
   d. Methods of advancing our work in the county.
9. Report of the Nominating Committee:
   Miss Rose Edna Brown, president
   Mrs. Richard Greene, vice president
   Miss Hattie Swift, secretary and treasurer.

A very humble beginning but one that has been blessed of God through all the years since.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
1919 - 1976

Bethel Baptist Church organized its first WMU in 1919 with 30 members, the fifth church in the Three Forks Association to organize a Woman's Missionary Society. Mrs. W. W. (Lora) Wilson was elected president and served in that capacity for four years, being succeeded by Mrs. A.C. (Polly) Trivette for the years 1923-24. Mrs. W. Y. (Naomi) Farthing was elected president for the next two years, 1925-26.

On September 10, 1921, Mrs. W. W. Wilson was elected Superintendent of the Associational WMU and served for one year.

On Friday, July 10, 1925 the WMU of Three Forks Association met for their 12th Annual Meeting with Bethel Baptist Church. Blanche Williams (Perry) gave the welcome. Mrs. W.W. Wilson conducted the devotional exercises from Luke 12:22-39. Bethel had 23 members present. Mrs. W.W. Wilson was elected secretary and Mrs. W.Y. Farthing was elected to the executive committee. Mrs. G.P. Hagaman, Superintendent, had died during the year and a beautiful memorial service was held for her just after the business meeting. Mr. Hagaman and their children were present for the memorial service.

In 1927, Mrs. Clyde (Maggie) Perry was appointed to the Associatinal nominating committee and Mrs. W.W. Wilson served on time and place. At the 15th Annual Meeting at Boone, Mrs. Clyde Perry served as secretary pro tem, Mrs. W.Y. Farthing was on the nominating committee and Mrs. Clyde Perry served on time and place.

On October 11, 1929 the 16th Annual Meeting was held at Blowing Rock. Mrs. Clyde Perry gave a report on the "Lottie Moon Christmas Offering".

The 17th Annual Session of the WMU was held with the Bethel Society on July 29, 1930. Mrs. W.W. Wilson was Stewardship Chairman and she gave an excellent talk on stewardship. Mrs. Allie Clay reported that Bethel had 9 Sunbeams, the first Sunbeams being organized in 1929. "Jesus Loves Me" was sung by the Sunbeams and Mrs. Clara Farthing and Mrs. Allie Clay sang "Jesus I Come". Mrs. W.W. Wilson read the following recommendations: "That each society in Three Forks Association have mission study classes, that the Associational library books be kept in circulation, that we try to organize a Sunbeam Band in each church in the Association and that each Stewardship chairman of the different societies secure and report the number of tithers to the Associational Stewardship Chairman.

On September 5, 1931 at the 18th Annual Session at Cove Creek, Mrs. Clyde Perry read a paper on the Margaret Fund, a fund to help missionaries' children while attending school. On September 10, 1932 the 19th Annual Session was held with Beaven Dam Baptist Church. Mrs. Clyde Perry conducted the devotional exercises for the afternoon session.

Bethel organized BYPU in 1930 with 48 members. From 1934 through 1955 there is no record of WMU work at Bethel in the Associational minutes. Under the leadership of Hoyt Roberson, Associational Missionary, the Women's work was revived with Mrs. Carl (Clara) Farthing as president and 15 members. Mrs. W. R. (Edna) Vines succeeded her, Mrs. Baker (Louiva) Ward served as president in 1958-59, and Mrs. W. R. Vines again in 1960-61. The Sunbeams

were reorganized in 1957. The Women's work died again in 1962.

In the fall of 1972 Mrs. Norman (Ruby) Reese taught the Baptist Women Leader Manual. Mrs. David (Loy) Farthing was elected president of the Baptist Women with 12 members. In December, 1975 Mrs. Tom (Mildred) Turbyfill was elected president and at the present time Bethel has 24 active members.

BLOWING ROCK, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1913 - 1976

When Miss Blanche Barrus, Corresponding Secretary of Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina, spoke to the women at South Fork Church August 28, 1912, ladies from Blowing Rock Church were there and listened carefully as she outlined the purpose and plan of work of Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention.

August 26-28, 1913,the Three Forks Baptist Association met at Cove Creek Church. The women also met for the purpose of organizing an associational union. Blowing Rock women were one of the three churches who agreed for the union. They returned to their church and organized immediately with Miss Rose Edna Brown as their president. She was also the first president of the associational union. There were 21 women enrolled in this first meeting. Too, they organized one of the first Sunbeam Bands. It is to be noted that each of the first societies had a Sunbeam Band. Probably the mothers had to take their children with them to their meetings and what better place for them than a Sunbeam Band.

In 1915 Miss Brown, their president, was married and there was no report for this year or 1916 but in 1917 they reported as their president Mrs. J. D. Brown, who was the mother of Miss Brown. No accurate records have been kept of this organization through the years.

Beginning in 1920 there have been limited reports to the Three Forks Baptist Association which show they have been active through the years. Mrs. D.P. Coffey, always an active member of the W M U, was elected Superintendent (Director) of the Associational W M U in 1937 and served through 1943.

Mrs. Eileen Birmingham is serving as W M U Director with 20 members in Baptist Women and 8 Girls In Action.

What an encouragement it would have been if the activities of this organization could have been recorded and given to others.

BOONE, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1914 - 1976

This is by no means a complete history of the W M U of the First Baptist Church, because many of the minutes have not been kept. The Boone First Baptist Church was organized in September 1871, and the Woman's Missionary Union was organized in August, 1914, with Mrs. B. J. Council as the first president. David Greene was listed as Sunbeam leader that same year. Mrs. J. G. Pulliam was also a leader in the women's work. Even in these early years the women led the church in mission study, in gifts and pledges sent to missionaries, and in training young people.

From 1915 until the present time the following women have served as Presidents or Directors of the W M U: Mrs. G.P. Hagaman (1 year); Mrs. D.D. Dougherty (18 years); Mrs. R.D. Cross (1 year); Mrs. I.G. Greer (3 years); Mrs. J.L. Qualls (3 years); Mrs. W.F. Miller (6 years); Mrs. Elwood Roberts and Mrs. J.C. Canipe (1 year together); Mrs. J.J. Coffey (1 year); Mrs. Alfred Adams (2 years); Mrs. H.R. Eggers (2 years); Mrs. R.D. Hodges,Sr. (2 years); Mrs. B.W. Stallings (2 years); Mrs. C.R. Lawrence (1 year); Mrs. Ralph G. Greene (2 years); Mrs. Paul Bagley (2 years); Mrs. Herman Wilcox 2 years as president and 1½ years as Director); Mrs. Henry W. Greer (2 years as president and 4 years as Director); Mrs. Dean Meredith (3 years); Mrs. Boyce Brooks (1year as president, and ½ year as Director); Mrs. Chapell Wilson (1 year); Mrs. Helen Stroupe (2 years); Mrs. Morris Barnett (2 years) and Mrs. Rip Collins (1 year).

Mrs. W.F. Miller is our oldest living President. She is 91 years old.

Here are a few excerpts that Mrs. D.D. Dougherty wrote about "What the Woman's Missionary Society Means to Me", She said "The W M U has widened and deepened my knowledge of the Scriptures - and has given me a clearer understanding of many points of faith and doctrine - confirming more fully my belief in the love of God toward his people. It has strengthened my confidence in daily prayer, and has given me a closer walk with God. Another feature involved in this work, it better qualifies us to lecture and warn and bring to Christ the unsaved who are moving in the outside world carelessly and heedlessly on the road to spiritual death. A woman is sweeter, more refined, more sympathetic and more kind, more liberal to the Master's cause when she obeys full duties to Him."

In 1921 a YWA and an RA group were organized. There were 78 women enrolled in WMU in 1931. It was noted in the minutes of that same year that the WMS appointed a committee to select and buy books for the church library, and later they bought book shelves and thus started the first library, which is now named the D.D. Dougherty Library. The G.A.'s had been organized sometime previous to 1930, because this organization was mentioned as needing leaders. It was noted also that the women had missionaries to speak for them on a number of occasions, and they always mentioned that personal service activities were carried out. In 1931 they gave $22.00 to the Home Mission Offering. In 1932-33, the church had a financial struggle, and the women were asked to collect gold, silver, and platinum jewelry to help pay the debts.

It was interesting to note that in 1937 there were six WMU organizations with a membership of 220. This was half of the total church membership at that time. Also that year the WMU provided a new electric Hammond organ for

the sanctuary. In 1939 the church began to give to the Cooperative Program, and the women and youth took an offering every month for the Cooperative Program.

In 1947 the women averaged 52 at their general meetings, which were held on the first Monday night each month. They met at 6:30 for their Executive meeting, 7:00 - Covered Dish Supper, 7:45 - Devotional, Business and Program, and 8:30 - Circle meeting. During this year they gave $114.00 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and $304.15 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Since the minutes could not be found for the 1950's, we have skipped this period, although we know the Woman's Missionary Union was working and alive.

The first By-Laws for the W M U were written and adopted in 1960. Through many years, the WMS was faithful in enlisting students in the activities of the church. They adopted students as a mission activity. But in 1960, with the help of the Campus Chaplain, the WMU and Brotherhood met and visited all the Baptist freshmen to welcome them to the church. This continued until around 1966. The women also furnished refreshments for the Welcome Party for Baptist freshmen for many years. During the 1960's and the 1970's, the total enrollment of the missionary organizations has fluctuated between 120 to 257 members. The WMU received Honor recognition in 1963-64. In May, 1963, the society celebrated the 75th Anniversary of MU work in the Southern Baptist Convention. The women came dressed in period costumes, and they had a large birthday cake with the number 75 on top. After a special program, tribute was paid to a charter member, Mrs. Ben Council, who was 89 years old at that time. (She had been the first president). Pictures of the early presidents were displayed, and a brief history was given. They received a certificate of special recognition for celebrating the Jubilee year.

In 1968 the Southwide WMU organization was changed from the Circle plan to the Group plan, with the idea that women belong to a group according to their interests - such as Mission Action Group, a Current Missions Group, Prayer Group, Round Table, Bible Study Groups, etc. During this transition period, a number of members were lost, and it has taken several years to build back up. The Intercessory Prayer League was organized and carried out in 1966-67 and several years following. Ever since the WMU was organized the women have observed the weeks of Prayer for Home and Foreign Missions, and Mission Study books have been taught. Many missionaries have visited in the church during the years.

In 1970-71 the church elected its first WMU Director, Mrs. Boyce Brooks, and from that time until the present has elected a WMU Director as well as a Baptist Women President.

The WMU of First Baptist Church was recognized as Distinguished for the year 1974-75. $4,000.00 was given through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and $2,700.00 was given through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering in 1975.

In 1976, as a part of Focus Week, the Baptist Women sponsored a Craft Festival. The crafts had to have a religious significance, and had to be made by members of the church, or by friends. It was an event enjoyed by the whole church. The youth organizations contributed things for the festival also.

Many wonderful mission action projects have been carried out by the Circles and Groups monthly during all the years. Also the Youth organizations have done many mission projects, and learned much about mission work. They have sponsored Mother-Daughter banquets, and have studied and taken part in Coronation services, with numbers of girls being recognized as Queens and Queens with a Scepter. Many girls have attended G.A. Camps either at Camp Joy or Camp Mundo Vista. A special word of praise should be said for the many women who have served faithfully as Sunbeam or Mission Friends leaders, G.A. leaders, Y.W. A. or Acteen leaders, and as R.A. leaders. No one can know how far their influence will be felt through the lives of these young people.

It has been the goal of this WMU to teach missions, to have all members engage in mission action, and to support missions through praying and giving.

BRUSHY FORK BAPTIST CHURCH
1954 - 1976

Woman's Missionary Union of Brushy Fork Baptist Church was organized May 9, 1954 with ten charter members. Mrs. A.Y. Howell was elected as the first president and Mrs. Lee Anderson, secretary-treasurer. The Community Missions projects were to visit the sick, help those in need in the community and furnish meals where death occurred in the community. The first offering amounted to $2.30 and this was sent to the Heck-Jones Fund. The next three offerings were sent to State Missions in the amount of $4.28, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in the amount of $17.43 and the first Annie Armstrong Offering amounted to $5.00.

In August 1955 the group became interested in a Church Library and begun work on this. By the beginning of 1956 the membership had grown to 25. Mrs. Blanche Perry was a great help to the group in their W M U work.

In November 1955 the Brushy Fork W M U had their first observance of the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering at this time was $50.00.

As the years went by, the young peoples' groups, such as Sunbeams, G.A.'s and R.A.'s were organized and sponsored by the W M U. Now we have Mission Friends, G.A.'s and Acteens with leaders who are doing a great work.

We are now having Family Night once each month with all organizations meeting as well as separate meetings once each month. We are very proud of the interest shown in missions. In 1975 our Annie Armstrong Easter offering was $1,448.73, State Missions $600.00 and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering of $3,633.62.

God has been good to us and even though there have been times when interest was lacking, we can still say that we are "Laborers together with God".

COVE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
1913 - 1976

God has no other plan for bringing to Him all the ends of the earth than through the faithful service and dedicated witness of those who know Him and walk in His way. Believing that women, too, should have a part in spreading His Gospel, in August 1913 in the old Cove Creek school building the women of Cove Creek Baptist Church met and organized their first Woman's Missionary Union. (It was necessary they meet in the school building as the men objected to any such meeting in the church.) Mrs. D. F. Horton was elected president and Miss Hattie Swift (Mrs. Hattie Lewis) secretary. Miss Swift was also elected the first secretary of the Associational WMU when it was organized the same month.

There were 24 charter members. Of these, three are still with us today - Mrs. Hattie Lewis, Mrs. Grace Bingham and Miss Ann Sherwood. Miss Sherwood and Mrs. Bingham were the leaders of the first Sunbeam Band organized in 1914 and Miss Sherwood taught the first mission study book to the women in 1914.

The first meetings were all held in the homes because the opposition of some of the men was so great they objected to the meetings being held in the church. Today meetings are held in the church, especially the Weeks of Prayer for Home and Foreign Missions, and the men take part in them.

At first the women paid 10¢ a month to missions but soon grew dissatisfied and decided to give more - each woman to give what she could and some even gave 25¢ a month. But there was objection to this because a few of the women felt that if everyone gave what she wanted to give too much would be given to missions. Today women and men are more liberal with their offerings and all special offerings are church-wide projects. The first offering for Foreign Missions from the women in 1913 was $3.25. In 1975 the women helped the church give a record offering of $1,714.00.

In 1921 the women began to put special emphasis on Bible Study, Mission Study and Personal Service which was later known as Community Missions and today we call it Mission Action. Through Mission Action much effort has been put forth in winning the lost, visiting and encouraging the enlistment of the unenlisted and indifferent, lifting moral standards in the community and helping to meet spiritual and economic needs in the community. This ministry is now extended until it reaches Hebron Colony, Grace Home, the Rest Homes, Camp Joy, hospitals, jail, the Youth Rehabilitation Center in Boone and new missions in pioneer sections of the United States.

The first Young Woman's Auxiliary was organized in 1927 with Mrs. Pearle Horton as Counselor; the first Girls' Auxiliary in 1929 with Miss Grace Blalock (Mrs. Grace Mast) as Counselor; the first Royal Ambassador Chapter also in 1929 but this organization was not very active until 1940 when Mrs. Nora Wilson became Counselor.

In G A the girls through memory work and many different projects in Forward Steps could advance to the highest step of Queen in Service. To do this they spent many hours in hard work but were rewarded with a greater knowledge of the Bible, Southern Baptist mission work and more dedicated Christian life. The first Queens were crowned in 1947: Mary Sue Walsh (Horton), Marjorie Mast (Nifong), Shirley Madron (Stevens), Joyce Perry (Ragan) and

Patsy Swift, deceased. In 1948 Mary Sue Walsh was crowned first Queen with Scepter and Joyce Perry first Honor Queen not only in her church but in North Carolina. Later Joyce completed work for the highest achievement in Forward Steps - Queen in Service. Because of her achievement in Forward Steps Joyce served as Page at the Annual Meeting of the State W M U in Raleigh, N. C. in March 1949, the first girl from the Three Forks Association to receive this honor.

The R A Boys had Ranks for advancement similar to Forward Steps for girls. The boys who advanced to the Rank of Ambassador were: Pat Mast, Herndon Mast, Johnny Horton and David Horton. Carson Perry advanced to the highest Rank - Ambassador Plenipotentiary. Two boys served as Pages at the Baptist State Convention: Carson Perry in 1944 and Pat Mast in 1946.

In 1955 when the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union began formulating plans for strengthening our W M U work in all its phases Cove Creek W M U was asked to help with a Laboratory Experimentation to study new plans to replace the old Standard of Excellence and so was one of the first societies in the Southern Baptist Convention to use the Aims for Advancement, now Aims for Achievement.

Changes in the plan of work of W M U occur from time to time and we have always cooperated with the State and Southern Baptist W M U in all programs launched. These changes have been made as a means of helping churches do God's work in a more efficient way. Too, we have always worked closely with the Associational W M U in carrying out its plans and projects and have given to it many of its leaders through the years.

Today, 1976, we have five active organizations - Three Baptist Women, one Girls in Action and one Mission Friends with a membership of 69. Many of our women and young people who need to be trained for Kingdom service are unenlisted. But definite efforts are being made to enlist them for it is from those whose lives are dedicated to Christ and His service there will come missionaries and church workers fired with a zeal to carry out the Great Commission.

We believe that when Christ said "Go ye" He was speaking to women as well as men and that through our organization is one of the best ways we can prepare ourselves to be obedient to His command, "For we serve the Lord Christ."

GREENWAY BAPTIST CHURCH
1956 - 1976

This is the year of Bicentennial emphasis in our nation! It's also an anniversary for the beginning of Woman's Missionary Union in our church. Over twenty years ago women who attended the Boone Baptist Mission and others from our mother church, First Baptist of Boone, felt a definite need for organized missionary education. As a result a WMU was organized on May 1, 1956, at a meeting attended by our Pastor, Rev. W. R. Eaton; Associational WMU Superintendent, Mrs. Don Perry; Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. James Sherwood; and fifteen interested women. Of those attending this first meeting, thirteen expressed a desire to become charter members. These were Mrs. Alfred (Daisy) Adams, Mrs. Collis (Roxie) Austin, Mrs. Lila Ballard, Mrs. Tom (Carrie) Council, Mrs. W. R. (Edna) Eaton, Mrs. Murray (Sally) Greene, Mrs. Greer (Midge) Hodges, Mrs. Woodrow (Blanche) Roberts, Mrs. John (Bertha) Robinson, Mrs. Henry (Viola) Rogers, Mrs. Ben (Roxie) Rosenbalm, Mrs. Custer (Lucile) Wallace and Mrs. Paul (Ruth) Winkler.

After the reading of scripture and prayer by our pastor, Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Sherwood explained WMU work in detail and Mrs. John Robinson was elected as President. A nominating committee was appointed to present complete slate of officers at our next meeting. We decided to meet each month on the first Tuesday night and thus was the beginning of a Woman's Missionary Society. To be a Woman's Missionary Union, you must have a Woman's Missionary Society plus at least one youth organization, so we qualified to be a Union at our initial meeting because we already had organized Girls Auxiliary and Royal Ambassadors, and three months later a Sunbeam Band and Young Woman's Auxiliary enlarged our family.

From the outset of our work, we sought to help meet the needs of those in our community, to teach missions through monthly programs, mission study courses, weeks of prayer information, etc., to encourage praying for all, especially our missionaries, and giving to our special missions offerings. During our first year we gave $3.07 to the Heck-Jones (WMU) offering, $14.00 to State Missions, $90.00 for Foreign Missions and $45.67 for Home Missions. We also sought to do things for our church such as taking care of the nursery, providing altar flowers, VBS refreshments, and food for the ill and bereaved. A monthly ministry was carried on at the Hagaman Rest Home as the youth also were involved in visiting, presenting programs, sending cards, taking fruit baskets and praying with and for the residents. Through tray cards and other ways we ministered to those in the hospital. Another meaningful witness was the visitation to mothers and new babies and the enrollment of these babies in our Sunbeam nursery.

As our work progressed we sought to make more provisions to reach out and enlist others. Along with our other age groups, we started an Extension Circle in October 1957, for those who could not attend but with whom we kept in contact through visits, phone calls, cards and sharing of prayer requests. In an effort to keep our purpose for being before the church, we observed Focus Weeks for Y.W.A.'s, G.A.'s and Sunbeams.

In 1958 we became Greenway WMU by virture of the fact that our Boone Baptist Mission was constituted into Greenway Baptist Church on July 6. We took part in "Christmas in August" plans, had our first five-day observance of Week of Prayer and our companion organization, the Brotherhood, was organized on October 6 with Ben Rosenbalm as President.

WMS Focus Week was held in 1959, our first GA Coronation Service with Patty Robinson as Queen. Susie Yates was our first YWA to be given a White Bible Ceremony. Twenty-eight of our young people and leaders attended Ridgecrest and we assisted with the first school of missions in our church.

In 1960 the WMS was organized into circles as we sought to enroll more women in missionary education and to continue to intersify our efforts in service to others. Our young people looked forward with anticipation to Camp Joy each summer, and we encouraged their involvement in this spiritual opportunity where many came to know Christ. We also paid expenses of camp for girls who would have been unable to go. One of the highlights for the GA's was a trip to the Baptist Children's Home at Thomasville.

Throughout the years Community Missions was of top priority with monthly soul winning visitation uppermost in our plans. We felt we could be more effective in our missions giving around the world if we could meet the needs right around us.

In 1964 we moved into our new building. During this year our WMU helped with Dedication Day, hosted the annual meeting of the association and the Associational WMU leadership conference. Mrs. Jack Lawrence was elected as President upon the resignation of Mrs. John Robinson, who was elected as Associational President.

Our church was represented at the State WMU Meeting in Greensboro March, 1965, the Baptist World Alliance in Miami Beach in June and GA Queens Court at Meredith College in May. Beth Lawrence became the first Queen Regent in our church.

We hosted the Associational WMU Meeting and Prayer Retreat at the Daniel Boone Gardens in 1966. The following year, Beth Lawrence represented our church and association at the State WMU Meeting. She served as a Page becoming eligible for this honor by attaining the highest step in GA Forward Step - Queen Regent in Service.

Mrs. Jack Lawrence served as President for five years. Many accomplishments were made under her leadership as she constantly challenged us to greater service and deeper commitment to the opportunities before us. She was succeeded by Mrs. Woodrow Roberts who became President in 1969. It was during her second year that the WMU underwent a major name change. The Woman's Missionary Society became Baptist Women and Baptist Young Women. Young Women's Auxiliary took the name Acteens. The GA's are still called GA's but this now stands for Girls in Action rather than Girls Auxiliary, and Sunbeams became Mission Friends. Mrs. Roberts, though in the same capacity as when President, became Greenway's first WMU Director. Circles became groups; the prayer chairman - mission support; and community missions - mission action. After trying the new plans for our needs in our situation, we adopted some of them and continued with some of our old methods as well. Even though the names were changed and new methods were used, our basic purpose remained the same and work advanced under the leadership of Mrs. Roberts for four years.

In October, 1973, Mrs. John Robinson was elected as Director. Our Baptist Young Women was reorganized and a new circle begun. We have seen much progress over the years and our young people have challenged us and been an inspiration as they have become involved in their organizations. We were again honored in 1975 by having Terry Bottoms represent us as a Page for the State WMU Meeting.

It has been a real joy to see many of our young people "grow up" both physically and spiritually with our eyes and hearts. We are so grateful for having the privilege of providing missionary education for them as we have attempted to give them a vision of world needs and an awareness that they can help to minister to these needs. They have been a vital part of our WMU work and we have had, and continue to have, the finest, most dedicated workers to be found anywhere. Only God knows how many seeds have been planted by them in young hearts and minds. The number is great as we think of these workers, and we know their rewards will be great also.

At present, we are what we refer to as a full graded WMU. We have enrolled in our seven organizations: 33 Baptist Women, 6 Extension Circle Members, 25 Baptist Young Women, 12 Senior High Acteens, 9 Junior High Acteens, 10 Older GA's, 4 Younger GA's and 12 Mission Friends - Making a grand total of 107.

We wish time and knowledge could make it possible for us to name every person who has been a part of our missionary endeavor at Greenway over these 20 years as we have sought to make our members and our church more missionary-minded and deepen our own individual personal faith and commitment. We thank God for using so many of us to promote His work and for the many, many who have made invaluable contributions. May He truly be pleased with our efforts and may He use each of us in a far greater way in the years to come as we seek to bring glory to His Name.

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HOWARDS CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
1964 - 1976

Howards Creek Baptist Church Woman's Missionary Union was organized in 1964. The charter members were: Julia Tester (deceased), Faye Greene, Bonnie Eggers, Helen Brown, Pearl Norris, Betty Greer, Goldie Miller, Chessie Greene, Allie Brown, Wilma Greene, Cornelia Miller, Irene Miller, Annie Edna Miller and Emogene Miller.

The following have been presidents: Bonnie Eggers - first president in 1964; Emogene Miller 1965 - 1968; Sandy Jones 1968 - 1973; Lena Boulanger 1973 - 1975; Emogene Miller, present president.

We have met once a month since we were organized to study the Royal Service and plan for whatever projects needed in our community or church. We always have a special project at Christmas such as a gift and treats for each patient in a rest home or gifts and food for a needy family. We have contributed to the special mission offerings since we were organized. We try to always be mission minded about our own community and try to help out in anyway we are needed.

We have had YWA's, GA's and Sunbeams but at the present time we only have Baptist Women, GA's and Mission Friends. We have gained and lost members through the years. At the present time we have 18 members in our Woman's Missionary Union.

LAUREL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
1948 - 1976

The women of Laurel Springs Baptist Church reported their first Missionary Society in 1948. Mrs. Blanche Perry and Mrs. Nora Wilson assisted in their organization. Mrs. W.H. (Sara Belle) Stanberry was their first president serving for a number of years. They had 10 charter members.

The 39th Annual Session of Woman's Missionary Union met with Laurel Springs on May 3, 1952. Prior to their organization these ladies were faithful in attending the annual meetings early in the 40's.

Those who have served as presidents and directors are: Mrs. W.H. Stanberry, Mrs. Clifford Ray, Mrs. Raymond Hendrix, Mrs. Joe L. Coffey, Mrs. J.E. Crump, Mrs. Gaye Coffey, Mrs. E.O. Gore, Mrs. Ora S. Brown, Mrs. Donald Wilson, Mrs. Carolyn Cheek and Mrs. Joyce Baker the present director.

In 1965 Intermediate GA's with 14 members and 12 Junior GA's were reported with 15 WMS members making a total of 41 WMU members. In 1972 Baptist Young Women were reported for the first time having 7 members and 15 Baptist Women. Today they are still an active organization with 10 Baptist Women and 5 Baptist Young Women. The enrollment has never been large but small in number they have been great in leadership and activity. In 1976 they won the Blue Chip Award for their work in their church and their community.

MABEL BAPTIST CHURCH
1950 - 1976

Mabel Baptist Missionary Society was first organized in 1950. with 17 members. On March 9, 1956 they reorganized with the following members: Kate Anderson, Nancy Anderson, Mollie Burkett, Charlotte Burkett, Ruth Eggers, Mavis Fletcher, Ella Norris, Phyllis Norris, Margaret Oliver, Madge Reece, Jane Reece, Bonnie Proffitt, Bina Townsend, Maude Wilson, Maude Warren, Myra Williams, Paulee Younce and Judy Younce.

We have had many successful projects and been involved in many community worthy causes since we organized. Some are: sending cards, gifts and flowers to hospital, served meals in homes where there was a death, sent love gifts to needy families, had stork showers for members of our church, purchased hospital bed and wheel chair, sent fruit baskets and baked goodies to shut-ins at Christmas, purchased a number of books for our church library, sponsored Vacation Bible School, sent packages to Vietnam Orphans. Our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions is a high light project of the year - also our Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

We meet the second Friday Night each month at the church. Our present membership is 23.

The following have served as presidents: Myrtie Sherwood, Clare Grogan, Maude Wilson, Madge Reece, Phyllis Norris, Charlotte Walls, Christian Stokes, Frankie Stokes, Peggy Burkett, Mary Vannoy and Evelyn Shelton the present president.

MIDDLE FORK BAPTIST CHURCH
1927 - 1976

Middle Fork Baptist Missionary Society was first organized the last Sunday in June, 1927 with Mrs. Cora Elizabeth Qualls, president of the Associational WMU, assisting. Mrs. Qualls was a dedicated Christian of the First Baptist Church, Boone.

The following were elected as officers: Mrs. Rodney C. Greene, President; Mrs. Dock Greene, Vice President (deceased); Mrs. Larkin Hodges, Secretary and Treasurer (deceased); Mrs. Horace Cook, Prayer Chairman (deceased); Mrs. Henry Story, Program Chairman (deceased); Mrs. Carol Hodges (deceased) and Mrs. Cordelia Shore, Youth Leaders; Mrs. W.T. Vandyke and Miss Annie Castle, Community and Publicity Reporters (both deceased).

A number of years passed that Middle Fork did not report an active Woman's Missionary Society.

On July 21, 1965, WMS was reorganized with 9 members. The following officers were elected at that time: Mrs. Rodney C. Greene, President, Mrs. Marvin Saunders, Vice President and Mrs. Nancy Shore Secretary and Treasurer.

In 1970 GA's and YWA's were organized with Mrs. Martha Greer serving as GA Leader and Mrs. Rodney C. Greene, YWA Leader.

Mission giving has increased greatly over the past ten years. In 1965 $100.00 was given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. In 1975 $849.00. In 1966 $100.00 was given to the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions and in 1975 $253.00 was given.

Mrs. Ann Ward is now serving as WMU Director, 5 are enrolled in GA's, 3 in Acteens, and 17 in Baptist Women, making a total of 25 in all the WMU organizations.

MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
1931 - 1976

In the minutes of the Eighteenth Annual session held at Cove Creek Baptist Church, September 5, 1931, the following appeared " A good report was read from Mount Calvary WMU one of our new societies". A total of 32 WMS members were reported. In 1932 Eva Chappell organized Sunbeams with 14 members. There were also 16 RA's reported. In 1936 the first GA report was given with 8 members. A total of $63.86 was given for missions that year.

Those who have served faithfully as presidents or directors during the years since they first organized are: Eva Chappell, Mrs. L.V. Gwaltney, Miss Sallie Gilliam, Mrs. Marshal Ward, Mrs. J.M. Shoemaker, Mrs. Parker Coffey, Mrs. Claude Gilliam, Mrs. Will Puckett, Mrs. Clarence Howell, Mrs. Doyle Shoemaker, Mrs. Janice Lecka, Mrs. Harold Crouch, Mrs. Lee Greer, Mrs. John Lingafelt and Mrs. Homer Shoemaker the present director.

Since their first organization they have been faithful to attend many of the Associational WMU meetings. On May 4, 1965 the Devotional was presented by the WMS of Mount Calvary at Rutherwood. The WMU has experienced growth through the years since they first organized with a total of 38 members, 13 Mission Friends, 7 GA's and 18 Baptist Women.

OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
1941 - 1976

The first Woman's Missionary Union was organized at Oak Grove on September 11, 1941. Mrs. J. C. Canipe and Mrs. Cook from First Baptist helped organize the group. Mrs. Mary McNeil was elected as the first president with Crete Hodges as secretary. The enrollment was 16.

In 1944, Marilla Hodges became the second president. That same year the first YWA group organized with 13 members and the GA's organized with 10 members.

In 1948, Maude Farthing became president and the first Sunbeam Band started with 10 members.

Marie Vance began the 50's as WMU president. She worked actively with the YWA's and they achieved a YWA citation. The Ideal Woman of the Month was selected each month for a year.

On August 26, 1951, Oak Grove's GA's crowned their first queen, Betty Ruth Hodges.

Mabel Berry was president from 1952-54. The ladies spent much of their time quilting for needy families in the community. On one occasion they decided to sell vanilla extract to buy a coffee urn for the church. When one lady dropped her vanilla on the church steps and broke it, they decided that selling goods for the Lord's work might not be expedient. They learned to fix their aim on gathering tithes and offerings.

From 1954-1960, Kathleen Ward was WMU President. The various circles were organized during this time and small groups met instead of one large general meeting.

In 1957, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Goal was $400.00.

In 1960, Edith Norris was elected president of the WMU. The emphasis was on study. All the leaders read their manuals and received credit, making the WMU an accredited organization.

In May, 1961, Donna Hodges was crowned as Oak Grove's second queen.

Mrs. Walter Jones, Mrs. Buck Hodges and Mrs. Don Hodges all worked faithfully during these years with the younger members of the WMU. Later that same year, Patsy Beshears was crowned queen.

Marie Hodges became president in 1962. Much time was spent working in the organizations at the church and in study and fellowship at Ridgecrest.

In 1963, Peggy Hodges became president.

In September of 1966, four girls were crowned queen; Karen Vines, Jane Ann Anderson, Karen Hodges and Kay Anderson. This rose our total to six queens.

Frances McNeil took over in 1966-68 as the first WMU Director. Billie Gragg was the president. Many changes took place during this period. New materials, new directions and even new names for the organizations were

introduced.

On December 18, 1968, a Christmas coronation was held, crowning Beth Vines and Kathy Ward. These were the seventh and eighth queens.

From 1969-70, Peggy Hodges served as director. Rose Hemphill led in several YWA White Bible ceremonies for the perspective brides.

In the intervening years between 1971 to 1975, Peggy Hodges, Kathleen Ward and Jean Reese all served as directors. Four girls Lisa Hodges, Cara Welborn, Glenda Woodrine, and Sharon Hodges were queens.

This year, the WMU has emphasized enlistment especially in the BYW. Mary Jo Tugman serves as WMU Director and Mrs. Eugene Byrd is Baptist Women's President. Our WMU is blessed with many dedicated women acting as leaders in the organizations from Mission Friends to the Baptist Women.

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PERKINSVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
1949 - 1976

In doing my research on the history of the WMU of Perkinsville Baptist Church, I discovered many interesting facts about not only our WMU, but our church as well.

I had just assumed that the WMU had always been a part of the church organizations. But in the Annual Report of Three Forks Baptist Association, 1949 Edition, I found that we had only One member present at this session, Mrs. Woodrow Greene.

In 1950 our church was blessed with an active WMU enrollment of 19. The members of our first WMU Organization were Edith Greene, President; Gem Lane, Nell Barnes, Ann Moody, Mrs. Hugh Kincaid, Nannie Edmisten, Ruby Triplett, Lottie Greene, Mrs. Tom Payne, Frances Payne, Ruby Greene, Lucille Greene, Mary Hartley, Hazel Hartley, Bessie Austin, Mary Kendall Cook, and Frankie Hodges.

By 1951 our enrollment had increased to 32. We also had 10 YWA's, 9 GA's and 12 Sunbeams.

In 1956 our WMU Organizations numbered 54. One year later we had 63.

In 1959 our attendance decreased, but soon was climbing and then surpassed our original high attendance.

In 1971 our total WMU enrollment was 130.

In 1976 our enrollment is growing steadily. We have Five WMU Groups: 1 BYW, and 4 Baptist Women Groups. We are in the process of organizing a singles class for college age girls which looks promising. Our groups vary in aspects of mission work. We have two current missions groups, one mission action, one Bible study and one prayer group. The outreach and concern these women have is beautiful! The love they have to share is given in so many helpful ways.

We have one Mission Friends organization, two Girls in Action organizations and two Acteen organizations. These meet every Wednesday night. They have terrific leaders and eager hearts to learn and to apply their knowledge to their daily lives.

In working to promote our Lottie Moon Christmas offering, we exceeded our goal of $3,000.00. We failed to reach our Annie Armstrong Easter Offeing, but will try harder next year.

Our activities with Woman Missionary Union has enriched our awareness of our obligation as Christians to share God's love with everyone.

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
1932 - 1976

Ladies of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church attended the Annual Meetings in 1922 and 1923 before they organized a WMS in 1932 with Mrs. Mollie Adams as president. They gave $1.00 for missions that year. In 1938 Mrs. Carl Winebarger was elected president with 24 members. No other reports are available until 1955 when Mrs. Clare Wilson was elected president of WMS with 16 members. In 1958 Mrs. Vera Isenhour was elected president with 10 members. Mrs. Clay Wilson was elected president in 1959 and 8 members were reported. No other reports are available until 1964 when Mrs. Rachel Hill was elected president. During this year YWA's with 7 members were organized and WMS with 20 members were reported.

On April 14, 1964 the 51st Annual Associational WMU Meeting met at Pleasant Grove and ten years later the 61st Annual Meeting was held there on May 7, 1974.

In 1965 Mrs. Nellie Hagaman was elected president and during this year the WMU was recognized as being an approved WMU. GA's were organized with 15 members and Sunbeams with 8 members. There were also 21 WMS members and 15 YWA's reported making a total of 59 members in WMU.

Mrs. Harold King served as president from 1966 - 1970.

On September 1972 18 ladies met and reorganized Baptist Women with Mrs. David Austin serving as president. Acteens were also started that year with 7 members and Miss Barbara Perry their leader.

Mrs. James Hagaman and Mrs. Lawrence Wilson have served as WMU Directors since 1974. They now have 20 Baptist Women and 5 Acteens. Plans have been made to start GA's soon.

Many mission minded projects have been carried out by the leadership of these dedicated ladies over the past several years. They have had an increase in mission gifts and in 1975 led their church in giving $1,054.00 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and $263.00 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering in 1976.

POPLAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
1934 - 1976

Poplar Grove organized a Woman's Missionary Society in 1934. Mrs. Ethel Hodges provided dedicated leadership as president in the beginning years of the society, and continued to serve in many capacities during her devoted Christian life.

Other ladies who faithfully served as presidents were Mrs. Connie Williams, Mrs. Lettie W. Day, Mrs. George Austin, Mrs. Merl Brown, Mrs. Edna Holloway, Mrs. George Main and serving in 1976 is Mrs. Beatrice Pitts.

Throughout the years the ladies truly tried to be "Laborers together with God". They gave freely of themselves to missions and benevolences. For our Orphanage they would prepare and preserve hundreds of jars of fruits and vegetables from their gardens.

They enjoyed serving as the host church for associational meetings and a wonderful spirit of Christian fellowship was experienced.

RUTHERWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH
1946 - 1976

The ladies of Rutherwood Baptist Church met in the summer of 1946 and with the help of Mrs. J.L. Qualls organized our first Woman's Missionary Union. Mrs. John Lanning was elected President. Our church was only eight years old at that time and for some reason we could not seem to get going. Before the year was out we had stopped meeting altogether.

Five years later in 1951, Mrs. Carter Farthing came and helped us reorganize and Mrs. Earl M. Bodenheimer was elected President. We have had an active organization ever since. We had one group of G.A. Girls most of this first five years. In 1956 we organized work with all of the Youth Groups including R.A.'s.

Our membership which started with only five or six has grown to a present membership of thirty.

The following people have served as Presidents or Directors for our Woman's Missionary Union: Mrs. John Lanning, Mrs. Earl M. Bodenheimer, Mrs. S. B. Brown, Sr., Mrs. Jewell Hardin, Mrs. Addie Clawson, Mrs. Ella Parleir, Mrs. Mary Lou Carroll, Mrs. Ruby Norris, and Mrs. Gelene Atwood.

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SOUTH FORK BAPTIST CHURCH
1919 - 1976

In looking through the minutes of the 89th session of the 1929 Associational meetings, there are records of W M U organizations in the church. Checking on through 1934 the minutes show the W M U was still active. There are no other records until 1960 when Mrs. Tom Trivette was president with a membership of 10. In 1961 Mrs. Mary M. Risk was president and remained president until 1965 when the minutes show the last W M U participation.

In 1975 the women of the church decided to start another organization. We started out with about 15 members. Mrs. David Risk was elected president/

The South Fork W M U promoted the Lottie Moon offering and collected over $200.00 for Foreign Missions. For the Annie Armstrong Offering we collected $85.00 which was $10.00 over our goal.

Today we give monthly to a missionary to Japan, John Baltz. We have birthday parties at Hi-Land Rest Home and are in the process of planning tray favors for the hospital.

We have all increased our knowledge of missions and how they operate. All our faiths have grown in the work of our W M U. We have a fine spirit of cooperation and interest in our W M U and are all trying to do our little bit for the organization and ask for prayers in our future plans and goals within our church.

THREE FORKS BAPTIST CHURCH
1953 - 1976

We cannot find the exact date that Mrs. Nora Wilson, Mrs. Johnnie Sherwood and Mrs. Blanche Perry came to our church to help us organize a WMU. Our first report is recorded in the 1953 Associational minutes. In our first yearly report we recorded 13 members, six of which had become tithers.

No youth organizations were listed until 1955. Mrs. Nora Wilson and Mrs. Blanche Perry also came to help organize them.

At that time no Training Union was listed for our church. Several years prior to this time we had a B.Y.P.U. organization but it had been discontinued. In our first year most all the members attended the Annual Associational WMU meeting held at Perkinsville church, and Homer Greene was recognized as the new pastor of Three Forks Church. The WMU Appreciation was prepared by Mrs. E. P. Carter and Mrs. Daisy Greene. It was read by Mrs. Daisy Greene, our first WMU President. Mrs. Ruby S. Michael was elected as Associational Mission Study Chairman. In 1954 Mrs. Ruth Greer was elected to this office and she served until 1957.

In 1955 Mrs. Daisy Greene was placed on the Associational Royal Ambassador committee and she served as Royal Ambassador leader in our church until 1970 when Charles Michael and Harvey Stamey took over. She was also elected as Associational Director of WMU Missionary Fundamentals, which included the areas of prayer, study, missions and stewardship.

In 1956 the Annual Associational WMU meeting was held at Three Forks Church. The theme was "His Commission - Our Mission". 15 churches were represented with 167 members in attendance, 26 of these being ladies of Three Forks church who helped with the serving of the meal. It is encouraging to note that ladies who could never attend the WMU meetings were always graciously willing to help in any need that arose.

Our members have always paid for their Royal Service Subscriptions and they have never been placed in the church budget. In 1956 and for the next two years we were 100% in Royal Service Subscriptions. In checking through our magazines we found that 1956 was the last year we received the small size Royal Service for in 1957 the size was changed to the larger ones we now receive.

Under the leadership of the WMU our church used Camp Joy August 30, 1955; August 29, 1956 and August 26, 1959. Donations were made to Camp Joy each time.

Our Presidents have been:

Mrs. Daisy Greene - 1953 - 1956
Mrs. Helen Trexler - 1957 - 1958
Mrs. Ruby S. Michael - 1958 - 1960
Mrs. Ruth Greer - 1961 - 1962
Mrs. Helen Trexler - 1963
Mrs. Rose Bolick - 1964
Mrs. Daisy Greene - 1965 - 1969
Mrs. Joyce Hampton - 1970 - 1976

In 1966 at the Annual Meeting held with Oak Grove Church our Junior Sunbeams, under the leadership of Mrs. Mary Lou Carroll and Mrs. Sue Hartley, were recognized as having been a state approved organization. Mrs. Charles Smith helped in presenting the program on "Woman's Day of Prayer".

In 1967 our Associational W M U was recognized as one of the 20 in the state to receive Honor Recognition.

In 1968 the new plans for W M U work became effective in October. The W M U was supposed to be divided into six or more groups, according to the interest of the members. Our group was so small that each member chose one area to read and study in and present the highlights and work that could be done at each meeting. This would be in addition to the work and program of the general meeting.

In 1969 the state board added two new services: Resort and Social Ministeries. I feel sure that the present day program of Campers on Mission has grown out of this beginning. Also several resort areas in and around Boone have been given the opportunity of Sunday Services as a result of this addition.

In 1970 the World Day of Prayer was held with Three Forks Church. The theme was: "Let us Rise up and Build". The Associational W M U was recognized by the state as being a Distinguished W M U. This was also the 125th Anniversary of Foreign Missions.

In 1971 Camp Mundo Vista asked for $1.00 per member and we gave ours. We have also made several donations since that time. Also in 1971 Camp Joy was placed under the direction of the Brotherhood and the W M U.

In 1973 the Missionary organizations were asked to help Rev. George Berry, of Oak Harbor, Ohio. He was in pioneer Mission Work. He and his wife were natives of the Valle Crucis area.

In 1974 our W M U provided transportation and a fellowship meal for the older members of our church. Pictures were taken and sent to each of the honored guests. The meal was held in the home of Troy and Daisy Greene.

In 1975 our Brotherhood was started again with Gene Stewart as President.

As members of the W M U we feel that we have had a part in helping our church become mission minded. Our people have always generously and graciously supported programs, offerings, and any projects that we have presented to them. We have always tried to make our work church wide and open to one and all. Many have not found it in their schedule to attend the meetings but at the same time without their support our church would have grown very little. We give a word of thanks and appreciation to each member.

There is a point in which we feel that our meetings might be among the most unique ones in the association since our pastor, Rev. Lynn Powers, has attended them since he became our pastor in 1967. He has attended our meetings faithfully since then and has brought to us the material in the Bible Study Group. We greatly appreciate his leading the church membership to a more "Serious Mission Awareness Consciousness". As W M U members we feel that this is an important area at the very heart of a church's right to exist.

One special project for 1976 was to go to Grace Home for Women, at Hebron Colony. We took red, white and blue quilt blocks, needles and white embroidery thread. All the ladies names and W M U names were embroidered on blocks. They enjoyed working their names. Some already knew the stitches and the ones who didn't soon caught on and were stitching away. It is to be a Bicentennial Quilt which will be given to Hebron Colony as soon as we get it quilted. We served refreshments and a good time was had by all.

We also provided a fellowship supper for the younger women of our church after which part of them attended a B Y W meeting at Rutherwood and they hope to organize a B Y W in our church soon. At our supper all were given W M U pins as a surprise and a token of remembrance of our Country's 200th year celebration. Our program chairman, Carolyn Brookshire had also secretly collected childhood pictures of all present. They were surprised and some didn't even recognize themselves. Our thanks to Carolyn for a very special meeting.

Our Youth Organizations have had periods of growth and periods of decline but have never completely disbanded since they were started. They have carried out many "community - mission - minded projects". The Mission Friends have continually carried out many projects, in the church, the hospital, the community and at rest homes. Their leaders through the years have been Mrs. Ruby Shore, Mrs. Sue Hartley, Mrs. Mary Hayes, and Mrs. Mary Lou Carroll.

WILLOW VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH
1936 - 1976

Willow Valley Baptist Church was organized February 9, 1935 with 39 charter members.

In the summer of 1936 Willow Valley's first Woman's Missionary Society was organized with the following charter members: Mrs. Iva Lee Harmon, president, Mrs. Clara Simpson, Secretary, Mrs. Floy Ward, Mrs. Belva Cable, Mrs. Mollie Ward, Mrs. Nannie Edmisten (deceased), Mrs. Vannie Greene (deceased), Mrs. Calletta Greene, Mrs. Viola Mains, Mrs. Gladys Ward, Mrs. Dare Isaacs and Mrs. Bonnie Kirby.

All the records we have of our mission work was mostly local until 1946 and we started paying into the Cooperative Program. To missions we gave $114.38 in 1946 with an increase of $784.00 in 1975.

Baptist Young Women were organized in July 1973 with a membership of 13. They have been very active since they organized attending Prayer Retreats at Camp Mundo Vista, visiting the rest homes and prepared a skit for the BYW Associational Banquet and joined the Baptist Women for other mission action projects.

The Baptist Women have 15 members,12 Mission Friends,12 GA's, and 9 Acteens making a total of 52 in WMU. Mrs. Iva Lee Harmon is serving as the Director.

WILLOWDALE BAPTIST CHURCH
1948 - 1976

Willowdale Baptist Church organized a Woman's Missionary Society in 1948 with 15 charter members. Mrs. Claude Edmisten was elected as president. Three attended the Annual meeting that year. In 1949 Mrs. Gilbert Edmisten was elected president and GA's were organized with 12 members. In 1950 Mrs. Gladys Mast was elected president with 16 WMS members and 12 GA's reported.

The 38th Annual Session of WMU met at Willowdale on May 5, 1951. Special music was rendered by Mrs. Roberta and Miss Peggy Whittington (colored) who sang "When I get to the End of the Way" and "Nailed to the Cross". At this meeting an offering was taken to send Mrs. Roberta Whittington to an Inter-racial Institute to be held in Raleigh on July 18,19, 1951 as a representative of both races.

Mrs. Lucille Elliott was elected president in 1951 and served until 1953. 26 WMS members were reported during this time.

Mrs. Gladys Mast was elected president in 1954 serving for ten years. During this time Sunbeams were organized in 1957 with 27 members and in 1958 GA's were organized with 11 members. A number of boys and girls also attended Camp Joy during these years.

In 1960 and 1961 the Sunbeams were recognized at the Annual meetings as being an approved Sunbeam Band.

In 1965 YWA's were organized with 6 members. During this year, Willowdale YWA's were host to the Associational YWA Meeting on September 30th.

In 1966, Mrs. Pauline Hicks was elected president with 3 YWA's, 14 GA's and 12 WMS members reported.

Mrs. Barbara Adams was elected president in 1968 and Mrs. James Branch in 1969.

No other reports are available until 1973 when the Baptist Women were reorganized in the spring with Mrs. Barbara McGuire being elected as president.

Mrs. Faye Farmer has served as president for the past two years, 1974-1976. They now have 16 Baptist Women and plans are to organize Acteens soon.

Many have remained faithful during the years since WMS was first organized. Mrs. Myrtie Glenn, a charter member of WMS, has attended every meeting since its organization.

THE FOLLOWING CHURCHES HAVE HAD AT ONE TIME MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS:

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH - 1935

Antioch Baptist Church organized a WMS in 1935 with 15 members. They still were active in 1937 with 15 members and Mrs. Virginia Harmon was president.

BEAVER DAM BAPTIST CHURCH - 1920

The seventh WMS to be organized in our association was Beaver Dam in 1920 with Mrs. George (Jane) Swift as president with 13 members. Before they were organized and after they disbanded they were represented at the Annual Associational Meetings.

They served as host for the Annual Associational Meeting, September 10, 1926 and again 1932. Several of the ladies served as Associational leaders, Mrs. Dora Swift was always faithful to attend the meetings even after they disbanded the organization.

Miss Rachel Wilson, Mrs. G. A. Wilson and Mrs. Lucy Wilson also served as presidents.

BEECH VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH - 1943

Mrs. W. S. Harmon was elected president of the WMS at Beech Valley in 1943. They reported 17 members.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH - 1932

Bethany Baptist Church organized a WMS in 1932 with 22 members. Mrs. Thelma Farthing was the president.

CLARK'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH - 1951

When the Woman's Missionary Union of Three Forks Association held their 38th Annual Meeting at Willowdale Baptist Church May 5, 1951, the women of Clark's Creek Baptist Church were present and reported on their organization. Mrs. Robert Greene was their president and they had 6 members. No further record has been made and it is not know definitely when they disbanded.

FOREST GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH - 1917

In 1917 Forest Grove Church reported a Woman's Missionary Society with Mrs. Alice Moody as president. They did not report their membership but did report their mission gifts - $29.35. In 1918 they reported 28 members. They were active through 1924 and from their reports it is evident they developed a spirit of service and systematic giving in their women. Miss Hattie Roark and Mrs. H. Hagaman also served as presidents.

GAP CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH - 1937

At the Annual Meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union in 1937 the women of Gap Creek sent a report, although there was no one present from their church. They had organized with Mrs. G. O. Triplett as their president and reported a membership of 20. Again, records were not kept and the organization must have ceased to exist for it is 1961 before there is any further record of their work. That year Mrs. Ruth Miller was elected president and in 1962 they reported a Woman's Missionary Society, a Girl's Auxiliary, and a Sunbeam Band with a total enrollment of 24. They were very active through 1974 but in 1975 they disbanded.

MEAT CAMP BAPTIST CHURCH - 1936

The ladies of Meat Camp Baptist Church met in 1936 and organized a WMS with 18 members. Mrs. A. E. Moretz was elected as the first president. In 1937 Mrs. Carl Byers was elected president and served from 1937-1939 and again in 1945-1952. Mrs. Bessie Greene served from 1940 until 1944. Mrs. Moretz served again for one year in 1944. The membership at this time was 24.

The twenty-sixth Annual Session of WMU met at Meat Camp, June 5, 1939. The young people presented a playet "Is it Nothing to You".

No reports were given after 1951 except that GA's were reported to have organized in 1966.

According to the minutes these dedicated ladies were active in their community visiting the sick, giving to community missions, the Co-operative Program, studying and praying for missions and providing leadership for our associational work.

MT. LEBANON BAPTIST CHURCH - 1944

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church reported a WMS in 1944 with Mrs. B. A. Hodges as the president with 9 members.

SHULLS MILLS BAPTIST CHURCH - 1938

Shulls Mills Baptist Church organized a WMS in 1938 with 20 members and Mrs. Edna Holloway was president.

STONY FORK BAPTIST CHURCH - 1932

Stony Fork Baptist Church reported a WMS in 1932 with Mrs. R.D. Welborn as president and 16 members in 1941 Mrs. Hattie Greene was president with 26 members. The only written report of their activities through 1961 we find in the Three Forks Baptist Association minutes. But it is known that, through few in number they were zealous in Prayer, Bible Study, Gifts to Missions and Community Service. This was due to their dedicated leadership and love for the Lord and His work. The Annual Meetings held there were always an inspiration and well attended.

TIMBERED RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH - 1920

Timbered Ridge Baptist Church organized a WMS with 20 members in 1920 with Miss Clare Greene president. Disbanded in 1921 and again in 1929 and 1930 they reported 10 members and had delegates at the annual meeting.

WHITE ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH - 1948

White Rock Baptist Church reported having a Sunbeam Band in 1948 with 19 members.

ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH - 1938

Zion Hill Baptist Church organized a WMS in 1938 with 11 members. They continued active in mission work in the 40's with Mrs. Virginia Harmon as president in 1942 and giving $62.00 to missions. Mrs. Berlie Harmon was president in 1947. No other records are available.

ZIONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 1925

In 1925 the women of Zionville Baptist Church met and organized a Woman's Missionary Society with Mrs. Maggie Wilson as president. There were 10 members. In 1965 it was reported that YWA's had been organized. Since there is no further record of this organization it is supposed it soon ceased to function.

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

HOWARD'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

MAY 4, 1976

PROGRAM

THEME: LET CHRIST'S FREEDOM RING

Prelude----------Miss Kathy Ward
*Hymn---------"America the Beautiful"--------No. 438
*WATCHWORD FOR THE YEAR....
"Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty"
--(2Cor. 3:17)
*HYMN FOR THE YEAR --------"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"
"Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of Liberty,
To Thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With Freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!"

Welcome and Opening Prayer--------Rev. James Tester

Skit----------"Beginnings of WMU"

Recognitions----------Mrs. Daisy Adams
Charter Members of Associational WMU
Associational Presidents
Those who have served as Associational Officers
Churches
Pastors
Visitors

Business
Reports and Announcements
Election of Officers
Installation Service-----Mrs. Margaret Hagaman

Presentation of Scholarship----Mrs. Joyce Hampton
Scholarship Offering

Memorial Service----------Mrs. Diane Fletcher

(*Congregation Please Stand)

Special Music---"God Bless America"--Associational
Baptist Young Women

God Bless America
Land that I love
Stand beside her - and guide her--
Thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains--
To the Prairiers--
To the Oceans - white with foam--
God Bless America-
My home sweet home,
God Bless America--
My home sweet home.

Prayer Calendar----------Oak Grove Acteens

Devotional Thoughts----------Mrs. Bertha Robinson

Closing Meditations----------Patty Blanton
and Susie Robinson

REFRESHMENTS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

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MEMORIALS

"I cannot think of them as dead,
Who walk with me no more;
Along the path of life I tread--
They have but gone before."

Bethel
Mrs. Gladys Farthing
Mrs. Rose Greene

Brushy Fork
Mrs. Cindy Wilson
Mrs. Ralph Wilson

Laurel Springs
Mrs. Ola B. Greene

Perkinsville
Mrs. Nell Barnes

Mount Calvary
Mrs. Grace Gwaltney
Mrs. Sallie Gilliam

Oak Grove
Mrs. Faye Calloway
Mrs. Sue Bolick
Mrs. "Mama Dona" Hodges

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Woman's Missionary Union of the Three Forks Baptist Association, take this opportunity and privilege to express our sincere appreciation to each of you who has had a vital part in making this meeting an inspirational commemoration of this our 63rd Annual Meeting. We extend special thanks to the following:

To the Women of Howard's Creek Baptist Church for their time and effort extended on our behalf to make our Annual Meeting an enjoyable and meaningful occasion.

To the Baptist Young Women for the special music.

To the Oak Grove Acteens for presenting the Prayer Calendar.

To Mrs. Bertha Robinson for the Devotional thoughts

To Patty Blanton and Susie Robinson for the closing meditation

To Mrs. Daisy Adams for her work as program chairman

To Mrs. Nora Wilson for the beautiful flowers

To Mrs. Blanche Perry, Mrs. Daisy Adams, Mrs. Ruby Reese, the Mabel Baptist Women, and others for their time and efforts in compiling the history booklet.

We also resolve in commemoration of the Bicentennial and the writing of the history of our Associational WMU to strive to continue and improve our efforts in spreading of the gospel and in our support of missions.

Respectfully submitted,
Miss Barbara Perry, Mrs. Burl Tugman
Mrs. Beatrice Pitts

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

ASSOCIATIONAL WMU 1976-1977

Director----------Mrs. Norman Reese
Assistant Director--------Mrs. Alfred Adams
Secretary-Treasurer-------Mrs. Tom Turbyfill
Mission Action Director---Mrs. Henry Greer
Baptist Women Director----Mrs. Harold King
Baptist Young Women Director-
Mrs. John Ward
Acteens Directors---------Mrs. Paul Shepherd
and Mrs. Bobby Hodges
Girls-in-Action Director--Mrs. Bob Cook
Mission Friends Director--Mrs. Archie Carroll

---Mrs. Kathleen Ward
Mrs. Mary Ann Lawrence
Miss Sharon Parlier

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TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE

(1) Leadership Conference - October 18, 1976
Brushy Fork Baptist Church
(2) Baptist World Day of Prayer - Oct. 31, 1976
Three Forks Baptist Church
(3) 64th Annual Meeting - May 3, 1977
Perkinsville Baptist Church

---Mrs. Dot Greer
Mrs. Ann Ward
Mrs. Ann Cook

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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Recipient - Mr. Burl Jones

---Mrs. Joyce Hampton
Mrs. Alma Shomaker
Mrs. Emogene Miller

ASSOCIATIONAL WMU OFFICERS FOR 1975-1976

Director----------	Mrs. Norman Reese
Assistant Director--------	Mrs. Jack Lawrence
Secretary-Treasurer-------	Mrs. Herbert Hodges
Mission Action Director---	Mrs. Henry Greer
Baptist Women Director----	Mrs. Fred Reece
Baptist Young Women Dir.--	Mrs. John Ward
Acteen Directors----------	Mrs. Paul Shepherd
	Mrs. Bob Moore
Girls-in-Action Director--	Mrs. Bob Cook
Mission Friends Director--	Miss Barbara Perry

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THOSE WHO SERVED ON THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Diane Fletcher
Mrs. Darlene Risk
Mrs. Jean Reece

THE FOLLOWING PLANNED THE PROGRAM FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING:

Mrs. Daisy Adams
Mrs. Ruby Michael
Mrs. Blanche Perry
Mrs. Nora Wilson
Mrs. Bertha Robinson
Mrs. Addie Clawson

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WMU TASKS.....

1. Teach Missions
2. Engage in Mission Action
3. Support World Missions through praying and giving
4. Provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and the denomination.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance, April 30, 1975----------		$303.38
Receipts:		
Membership Dues----------	223.00	
Scholarship Fund----------	85.13	
World Day of Prayer---------	66.82	
Total Receipts----------		374.95
Balance Plus Receipts-------		678.33
Disbursements:		
WMU Workshop Registration---	50.00	
Miss Martha Franks----------	75.00	
Sunshine Magazine (Hospital)	8.00	
Mrs. Faye Fincannon---------	40.00	
World Day of Prayer---------	66.82	
Dr. Paul Caudill----------	10.00	
BYW - Winn Dixie----------	11.27	
Baptist Book Store----------	5.77	
Motel Room and Meals for State Workers----------	41.23	
Postage, ink, envelopes-----	45.80	
Phone Calls----------	3.57	
Scholarship Recipient-------	75.00	
Total Disbursements----------		432.46
Balance, May 4, 1976----------	$	245.87
Less Reserve for GA's & Acteens--------		105.00
Balance on Hand----------$		140.87

---Mrs. Herbert Hodges
Treasurer

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DATES FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS

July 11, 1976 WMU Council Meeting - Brushy Fork Baptist Church - 2:30 PM

September 24, 1976 - Leadership Tour - Study of New Manuals - Wilkesboro Baptist Church - 4:30 - 9:00 PM.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Active Organizations:	Date Organized:
1. Blowing Rock, First	1913
2. Cove Creek	1913
3. Boone, First	1914
4. South Fork	1919
5. Bethel	1919
6. Middle Fork	1927
7. Mount Calvary	1931
8. Pleasent Grove	1932
9. Poplar Grove	1934
10. Willow Valley	1936
11. Oak Grove	1941
12. Rutherwood	1946
13. Willowdale	1948
14. Laurel Springs	1948
15. Perkinsville	1949
16. Mabel	1950
17. Three Forks	1953
18. Brushy Fork	1954
19. Greenway	1956
20. Howard's Creek	1964
Inactive Organizations:	
1. Antioch	1935
2. Beaver Dam	1920
3. Beech Valley	1943
4. Bethany	1932
5. Clark's Creek	1951
6. Forest Grove	1917
7. Gap Creek	1937
8. Meat Camp	1936
9. Mount Lebanon	1944
10. Shulls Mills	1938
11. Stony Fork	1932
12. Timbered Ridge	1920
13. White Rock	1948
14. Zion Hill	1938
15. Zionville	1925

(A special thanks to Mrs. Lucille Wallace for making our dates for the churches)